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GIFT OF

Fitzwilliam,N.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

TOWN OFFICERS

—OF—

FITZWILLIAM, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1881.

WHITTEMORE & CO., Printers, Keene, N. H.

THE REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The committee to whom has been entrusted the supervision of the Schools for the year ending March 1st, 1881, submit the following report:—

The condition of the schools so far as we are able to judge, after considering the matter carefully, is as good as we can reasonably expect taking all things into consideration. Most of them are quite small as our people well know, this fact will not detract or need not, from their usefulness and advancement unless our citizens think it a useless expenditure to provide first-class teachers where there are so few scholars to be instructed; if there are sufficient scholars in a district to constitute a school the best teacher procurable is none too good. We cannot prize too highly our schools as a means of personal benefit to our children and as a means of increasing the intelligence and enterprise of a community; neglect them and our churches may soon be closed, when ignorance and vice will go hand-in-hand broad-cast over the land. Whatever is done for the maintainance and support of our public schools is done for the safety of our country; the interest in them ought not to be confined to parents alone, but every tax-payer should take a deep interest in them. If the entire community should have an eye upon the teacher with a view to their ability as instructors, it would we think have a tendency to raise the standard of qualification and necessarily inspire them to greater efforts. If we would at-

tain a full measure of success and prosperity in our schools every citizen must take a deep interest in them. A well regulated and united effort of teacher, parent, committee and citizen will insure us a good school at any time; this verifies the truthful saying, that "in union there is strength."

The prudential committees have been quite fortunate in the selection of teachers during the past year; a number of them have been professional, we mean by this that they have been to the trouble and expense of educating themselves as teachers and for the purpose of teaching. We believe this class should be sought after and procured at any price; we can expect but little of a teacher who is not sufficiently interested in the profession to qualify themselves for it. There cannot be a more honorable calling. If teachers find after some experience that they have no taste for it and are unequal to its demands and responsibilities, they should give it up at once and for good. A good teacher is cheap at any price, and a poor teacher is dear at any price.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOLS IN DETAIL.

DISTRICT NO. 1.—Summer Term.

Miss Annie I. Smith, Rindge, Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 24.

Average Attendance, 7 1-2, Tardiness, 0.

Miss Smith's reputation as an experienced and successful teacher was well established before her engagement in this district. She commenced her school with every assurance of success; we were highly pleased with the appearance of the school on our first and second visits. The order was good and each scholar appeared to be doing his best; later in the term the teacher had occasion to punish one of the larger pupils; the scholar did not refuse to be punished, but was not willing to submit to the kind of punishment specified by the teacher; after a while the matter was compromised and the school went on tolerably successful. The attendance as will be seen by the above average was very irregular. The examination passed off very pleasantly and all seemed well pleased with the result.

We regret to say that we do not meet nearly as many parents in this district as formerly; can it be that the interest in the school is abating?

Fall Term,—Teacher, Miss Anna M. Carter.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 21.

Average Attendance, 16 3-4, Tardiness, 0.

Miss Carter is a recent graduate of the Bradford (Mass.) Academy. She has had considerable experience in teaching but this was her first school since graduation. Fresh from college and anxious for work, she made this a profiable term to such of her pupils as were desirous of learning and willing to work for the sake of it. Her disipline was mild, her instruction clear and

impressive; she labored hard to make it a profitable term and the examination showed that she had not worked in vain. The attendance was somewhat irregular, but an improvement on the preceding term. The members of the district were so well pleased with Miss C.'s success that she was engaged for the winter school.

Winter Term,—Same Teacher.
Length of School, 6 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 16.
Average Attendance, 14 1-2, Tardiness, 0.

Miss Carter commenced this term with no expectation of anything short of complete and satisfactory success. The school was composed of boys principally, (many of whom could be called young men more properly) there being but one girl in attendance. She labored hard to make this a profitable school, but early in the term it became apparent that some of her pupils did not respond gracefully and manfully to her requirments; she was trying hard to eradicate this evil when the prudential committee declared the term closed. No examination. We regard it as very unfortunate for any school to have a term cut short on any account whatever, but when a school is brought to a close in the middle of the term because a female teacher is not sufficiently powerful to enforce order, when it is acknowledged that she possesses every other qualification necessary for the fulfilment of her duties, it is doubly unfortunate, deplorable even.

DISTRICT NO. II.—Summer Term.
Miss Eliza J. Mitchell, Cambridge, Mass., Teacher.
Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 6.
Average Attendance, 5 3-4, Tardiness, 0.

Miss Mitchell is a graduate from the Training School for Teachers, in Cambridge, Mass., a lady eminently qualified as a teacher. She loves her profession, and notwithstanding that her school was very small she found plenty to do; she required every scholar to be thorough in their studies and prompt in recitation; her instruction was rendered in a lucid and forcible manner.

The closing examination was exceedingly interesting for so small a school from the fact that it showed correct deportment, ready and prompt answers in the various recitations.

Winter Term,—Teacher, Miss Fanny C. Hartwell, Cambridge, Mass.

Length of School, 14 1-2 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 6.

Average Attendance, 6, Tardiness, 0.

Miss Hartwell is also a graduate of the Training School for Teachers, at Cambridge, Mass. We believe this to have been her first school, if so we bespeak for her a very successful career as teacher. She was devoted to her work and made this *small* school a *great* success; her duties were performed in a pleasant and agreeable manner, and her discipline though mild was effectual. Very marked progress was made in Reading, Arithmetic, Grammar, Writing, Composition and Drawing; in fact every branch pursued by the pupils, showed marked and decided progress at the examination. This district has established this fact, that it is an easy matter to have a good school provided we procure a first-class teacher. The school has been prolonged as has been the case frequently heretofore by a donation of the board of the teacher throughout both terms.

DISTRICT NO. III.—Summer Term.

Miss Cora J. Fisher, Royalston, Mass., Teacher.

Length of School, 8 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 18.

Average Attendance, 16 1-2, Tardiness, 17.

Winter Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 16 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 19.

Average Attendance, 11 3-4, Tardiness, 32.

This teacher has taught successfully in other districts in this town during previous years. The school appeared under very fair discipline when visited by your committee, but there seemed to be considerable indifference manifested by some of the scholars in regard to some of the requirements of the teacher Very commendable progress was made in Arithmetic, Geography and Penmanship, and the closing exercises of both terms were creditable to teacher and scholars.

DISTRICT NO. IV.—Summer Term.

Miss Emma M. Fisher, Royalston, Mass., Teacher.

Length of School, 8 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 13.

Average Attendance, 11 1-2, Tardiness, 7.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 4.

This school was conducted with a fair degree of success, the manner of the teacher in the school-room was modest and as far as we saw pleasant, and if there was any fault in her mode of government it was the want of a little more vigorous exercise of the will. The school when visited was quiet and showed a fair degree of industry; there was good progress made in Reading, Writing, Geography and Arithmetic. The decorations of the school-room at the final examination evinced taste, and that the teacher and scholars were interested in the school.

Winter Term,—Teacher, Miss Julia E. Wilson.
Length of School, 18 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 19.
Average Attendance, 15 2-3, Tardiness, 11.

Miss Wilson entered upon her labors in this school with a determination to do her best; she is ambitious to succeed as a teacher, and she labored faithfully during this long term and discharged her duties with true fidelity. Very commendable progress was made in Arithmetic, Geography and Book-Keeping. The order and disipline of the school was good. The examination was conducted in a very satisfactory manner to the committee and citizens present.

DISTRICT NO. V.—Primary Department.—Summer Term.
Miss Hattie M. Humphrey, Keene, Teacher.
Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 35.
Average Attendance, 32 1-4, Tardiness, 13.

Miss Humphrey's qualifications in the opinion of the committee are better adapted to a school of a higher grade, and older scholars. It is well known by all who have had any considerable experience in teaching, that it requires a peculiar tact to manage, interest and instruct small children. Miss Humphrey is a graduate of the Keene High School, and a fine scholar: with experience we think she will make a successful teacher.

Fall Term,—Teacher, Miss Junie Simonds.
Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 33.
Average Attendance, 27, Tardiness, 6.

Miss Simonds' reputation as a teacher is too well known in this vicinity to require any commendation from your committee

and her former success as an instructress of children was fully sustained during this term of school, and whenever her services are available we trust that the prudential committee of this district will not fail to secure them for this important and interesting primary school, where so many small children are first taught the fundamental rudiments of education.

Grammar Department.—Summer Term.

Miss Imogene B. Hudson, Keene, Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 22.

Average Attendance, 21, Tardiness, 0.

Fall Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 28.

Average Attendance, 27 1-2, Tardiness, 0.

Winter Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 32.

Average Attendance, 29, Tardiness, 0.

This was not Miss Hudson's first effort as a teacher in this town, having taught one term in District No. 3. She has had considerable experience and went about her work with becoming zeal and understanding. She has labored hard through three successive terms and her efforts have been crowned with very gratifying results. Careful attention was given to every recitation and it was evidently the aim of the teacher that no principle should be passed over without being thoroughly understood. She showed much tact and skill in keeping her pupils interested in their studies; to avoid monotony the minds of the scholars were diverted by discussions in which every member of the school was at liberty to take a part. Many exercises both profitable and pleasant were introduced from time to time.

Nothing occurred to our knowledge during the summer and fall terms in any way calculated to mar or impede the progress of the school. The winter term was not quite as successful from the fact that some of the pupils did not comform to the rules and regulations as readily, yet we regarded this term as very profitable to all disposed to learn. The teacher's efforts were not lessened or abated and the examination at the close of each term was of a high order and elicited much praise.

DISTRICT NO. VII.—Summer Term.

Miss Anna L. P. Collins, Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 9.

Average Attendance, 8 1-2, Tardiness, 1.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 9.

Winter Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 14 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 13.

Average Attendance, 11 1-2, Tardiness, 11.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 2.

This was Miss Collins' first effort in teaching; at the commencement of the first term the school was found to be in a very good condition and so continued through both terms. Judicious, mild and gentle in her manners, this teacher secured the good-will of her pupils to an unusual degree. The closing examinations of both terms were creditable alike to teacher and scholars and evinced that much progress had been made in the various branches pursued.

DISTRICT NO. VIII.—Summer Term.

Mr. Charles L. Williams, Teacher.

Length of School, 7 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 37.

Average Attendance, 34, Tardiness, 6.

Fall Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 7 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 42.

Average Attendance, 40, Tardiness, 6.

Winter Term,—Same Teacher.

Length of School, 12 3-4 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 35.

Average Attendance, 27, Tardiness, 2.

Mr. Williams having taught this school the previous winter with marked success his services were secured for the past entire school year consisting of three terms. Each term has passed off very pleasantly and profitably, and Mr. W. has acquitted himself with much credit. The order has been good during each term and the pupils have made commendable progress in their studies. The teacher has shown much tact and energy in the management of his school. Singing (the best we have heard in any school during the year,) calisthenics and various other exercises were introduced as a healthy and pleas-

ant pastime. The attendance as will be seen above, especially during the winter term has been somewhat irregular; we are aware that the roads have been almost impassable some of the time and many of the scholars are quite small. We hope no scholar has been allowed to remain at home a single day with a more trivial excuse. The examination at the close of each school exhibited unmistakable evidence of a steady progress through the year.

DISTRICT NO. IX.—Summer Term.

Miss M. Belle Watson, Troy, Teacher.

Length of School, 11 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 14.

Average Attendance, 11 1-2, Tardiness, 2.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 3.

Miss Watson has had considerable experience in teaching and has taught several terms in other districts in this town with uniform success. Her competency in learning and purity of character are beyond question, though the exercise of more energy and firmness would have materially aided her in the prosecution of her labors in this school.

At the examination most of the scholars appeared to have made progress in their studies.

Winter Term,—Teacher, Miss Rose C. Nichols, Keene.

Length of School, 13 1-2 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 14.

Average Attendance, 12, Tardiness, 12.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 3.

Miss Nichols is a prompt and thorough teacher, she was earnest in her work and the scholars gave evidence of thorough instruction. There was very commendable progress made in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, and the exercises of the closing examination were very satisfactory to the committee and the parents and citizens present.

DISTRICT NO. X.—Summer Term.

Miss Grace M. Putney, Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 10.

Average Attendance, 9 1-2, Tardiness, 0.

No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 4.

Winter Term—Same Teacher.
Length of School, 13 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 11.
Average Attendance, 10 1-2, Tardiness, 11.
No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 4.

Under the judicious instruction of Miss Putney the pupils in this school during both terms made good improvement. Very marked progress was noticeable in Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography and Arithmetic. We fear that parents in this district are a little too much inclined to hear and credit unfavorable reports from their children concerning the school, instead of visiting the school and judging impartially for themselves.

Miss Putney's experience in teaching has not as yet been extensive, but we feel confident that should she continue her labors as teacher,—which we trust she will,—she will eventually make a first-class teacher. The interior of the school house in this district has been very much improved by the introduction of new seats, and by the addition of a little paint and a new desk for the teacher, the school room would be one of the best in town.

DISTRICT NO. XI.—Summer Term.
Miss Sara T. Perry, Teacher.
Length of School, 9 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 8.
Average Attendance, 7 2-3, Tardiness, 0.
No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 5.

Winter Term—Same Teacher.
Length of School, 12 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 7.
Average Attendance, 6†, Tardiness, 0.
No. Pupils not Absent or Tardy, 2.

Miss Perry has had charge of this school during several successive terms, and it is gratifying to the committee to state that on the part of the teacher there has been no diminution of zeal or industry in the management of the school, but on the contrary much tact and talent has been displayed in urging the scholars forward in their various studies. And the efforts and good conduct of the scholars as presented at the examination were very satisfactory. The register was neatly kept.

DISTRICT NO. XII.—Summer Term.

Miss Julia E. Wilson, Teacher.

Length of School, 10 Weeks, Number of Scholars, 8.

Average Attendance, 8, Tardiness, 1.

This was Miss Wilson's first term of school in this town, and it was a commendable effort on the part of the teacher.

Winter Term.

This term was commenced by Miss Emma M. Fisher of Royalston, Mass., and after six weeks of fair success was discontinued on account of sickness on the part of the teacher, when Mr. Charles H. Goodell of Royalston, Mass., was employed to finish the term, and in the opinion of your committee he has mistaken his calling. His school was not a success.

The number of children between the ages of 5 and 15 as given by the Selectmen in April, 1880, is as follows:—

Boys,	117
Girls,	101
Total,	218

At the annual town meeting in March, 1880, the town voted to raise and appropriate for the support of schools, $2000 00

To which was added:—

The Literary Fund,	93 98
Town Taxes on Dogs, 1879,	61 00
Total,	$2154 98

Apportioned among the several Districts as follows:—

District No. 1,	$225 00
" 2,	143 78
" 3,	168 00
" 4,	156 00
" 5,	515 00
" 6,*	10 70
" 7,	137 00
" 8,	257 50
" 9,	157 00
" 10,	126 00
" 11,	120 00
" 12,	139 00
Total,	$2154 98

* Paid to Troy.

LIST OF TEXT BOOKS.

The New Testament.
Worcester's Dictionary.
Readers.—The Franklin, 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th and 6th.
Spellers.—Swinton's Word Book Series.
Writing Books.—Spencerian Series.
Arithmetics.—Eaton's Primary, Common and High School, and Colburn's Mental.
Geographies.—Harper's Introductory and School.
Grammars.—Quackenbos' English and Primary.
Histories.—Quackenbos' and Goodrich's.
Algebras.—Davies' and Robinson's.
Physiology.—Steele's and Cutter's.
Book Keeping.—Mayhew's.
Drawing.—Krnss' Series.

TEXT BOOKS.

Your committee have confidence in the selection of books introduced and now in use in our schools, and we wish parents and teachers to take notice of the list and not introduce others as was done in one of our largest schools during the past winter, without the knowledge or consent of the committee. It subjects the scholars or parents to a useless expense, as by the provisions of our state law no book can be introduced or used in the common schools of this state except it be authorized and introduced by the Superintending School Committee or Board of Education. See sections 5, 11 and 12 of Chapter 89 of the General Laws of New Hampshire.

During the past winter your committee made arrangements with the publishers of "Swinton's Word Primer." and "Word Book, or English Spelling, Oral and Written," for their introduction into our schools, on even exchange for the "North American," and "Progressive" Spelling Books, which have been in use in our schools for nearly twenty years. An even exchange was also made with our dealers in school books for all the spelling books they had upon their shelves.

The well-known and established reputation of Swinton's series of text books is a sufficient guarantee for their superiority over those which have been so long in use in our schools, and after a careful examination of several spelling books we unanimously came to the conclusion that the introduction of "Swinton's Word Book Series" was judicious and necessary for the best interest of our schools. We accordingly commenced the exchange in those schools that were in session at the time of the receipt of the books. Sufficient time was given by the publishers to the committee to complete the exchange in all our schools during the next summer terms.

THE TEACHER'S RELATION TO HIS PROFESSION.

To be a successful teacher a good sound English education in all its branches is indispensable. Next, the individual must love the business, possess a natural fondness for children, an easy, off-hand style of communicating and impressing his in-

structions upon the young mind must be ambitious to excel, active, cheerful, yet dignified; have self respect without haughtiness, and last though not least, possess a great share of patience, combined with energy and perseverance to overcome all obstacles and petty annoyances that are daily strewn in his path. An individual not possessing the majority of the above traits had better never enter the school-room but seek some other employment more adapted to his inclination and capacity.

DUTIES OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS.

Every citizen is, to some extent, responsible for the efficiency of the school, and should endeavor by all suitable means to co-operate with teachers in their efforts to render those who are now children, good and useful members of society.

PENMANSHIP.

We regret to see how few of our teachers comprehend the importance or understand either the first principles or practical part of good penmanship. This is a branch in the teachers qualifications not properly regarded, but should be made a special requisition, for it is at our common schools that children are first taught or pretended to be taught in writing. Many scholars after becoming accustomed to the use of the pen, write the outlines or skeleton of the hand most natural to themselves.

Now the true secret of teaching penmanship, and the business of the teacher is, to instruct the scholar how to improve the hand he has already sketched, rather than to compel him to imitate a mechanical copy that may be set in his copy book, for unless the scholar has a natural tact for the art, and is a remarkably good imitator, ten chances to one, if he write as well at the close as at the commencement of the term. Furthermore, his natural hand being broken up, he will never write any other with elegance and ease. If our scholars do not learn the art of penmanship in our common schools, it is extremely doubtful if they ever afterwards acquire any great proficiency in this very important branch of an

early education. Scholars should be required to write in our common schools from fifteen to thirty minutes each day in order to keep the hand in practice, for we believe the adage, though old, is none the less true, that "practice makes perfect."

DECLAMATIONS AND COMPOSITIONS.

Some improvement has been made during the past year in the practice of declamations and original compositions in some of our schools on the part of scholars of sufficient age to take a part in these important exercises. This is a subject which should be viewed with much interest, and has been urged to the attention of teachers and scholars by your committee in many of our schools during the past year, and with some good results.

Some of our teachers have practiced the plan of writing a word or a subject each day or two, on the black-board: such subjects, for instance as, Summer, Autumn, Winter, The Ocean, The Sky, The Air, Water, A Ride, Our School-days, and requiring all the scholars of sufficient age to write a few lines upon the subject. and the teachers collect and read them to the school, and in this manner the scholars had been writing compositions during the whole term and were not aware of it. Several original compositions, and such exercises of much merit were read at the closing examinations of several schools, which reflected much credit upon both scholars and teachers.

Both boys and girls should learn to declaim and write compositions, and if they do not commence when young in the common school it is doubtful if they ever acquire any great degree of proficiency in these important branches of an early education. But patience and labor are required to render the practice general. It is sincerely hoped that frequent preparation of such original articles will become universal in all our schools,since the theoretical study of English Grammar is of small utility unless its principles are reduced to practice and fixed in the mind by habitual exercise in our common schools, while our children are young and forming their characters and education for the stern realities and arduous duties of life.

CONCLUSION.

In bringing our labors for the year to a close, we desire to tender our thanks to the prudential committees, parents, teachers and scholars for their uniform courtesy and zealous co-operation in our endeavors to faithfully discharge the official duties required of us by law, and our most sincere wish and desire is that our schools may meet with that prosperity which they so richly deserve.

Respectfully submitted,

A. R. GLEASON,
AMOS J. BLAKE,
SAMUEL KENDALL,
} Superintending School Committee.

Fitzwilliam, N. H. March 1, 1881.

TABULAR VIEW.

DISTRICTS.	PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.	Amount of money appropriated.	Amount of money appropriated for each scholar.	Whole number of Scholars. Summer term.	Whole number of Scholars. Winter term.	Average daily attendance. Summer term.	Average daily attendance. Winter term.	Tardiness. Both terms.	Visits by Superintending Committee.	Visits by citizens aside from final examinations.	Weeks of school during the Year.	Wages per month including Board. Summer Term.	Wages per month including Board. Winter Term.
1	Henry T. Hall,	$ 225 00	$8 60	24	21	17½	16½	0	13	49	26	$30 00	$36 00
2	Samuel W. Carroll, & Samuel Kendall,	143 78	17 97	6	6	6	6	0	12	10	28	30 00	30 00
3	Charles F. Pope,	168 00	9 33	18	19	16½	16½	49	10	32	24	26 00	26 00
4	George O. Dunton.	156 00	8 21	13	19	11½	15⅔	18	8	41	26	20 00	22 00
P. 5	Timothy Blodgett,	515 00	7 90	30	33	27	27	22	14	70	30	36 00	38 00
G. 5				22	32	21	27½	0	14	170	30	38 00	44 00
6		*10 70											
7	Bartlett Hayden,	157 00	10 53	9	13	8½	11½	20	5	15	24	22 00	22 00
8	Wright Whitcomb,	257 50	6 08	37	42	34	40	12	12	75	26½	32 00	40 00
9	Joel Perham,	157 00	11 21	14	14	11½	12	14	8	52	24½	22 00	28 00
10	David T. Moore,	126 00	10 05	10	11	9½	10½	11	5	34	23	24 00	26 00
11	F. E. Pierce,	120 00	15 00	8	7	7⅔	6	0	5	10	21	20 00	22 00
12	James Harkness,	139 00	11 58	8	11	8	10¾	8	12	19	26	17 00	26 00
	Total,	$ 2,154 98		199	228			154	118	577	299		
	*Paid to Troy.												

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN, AS BY INVOICE TAKEN APRIL 1, 1880.

306 polls, $100,	$30,600 00
Resident real estate,	279,060 00
Non-resident real estate,	56,970 00
228 horses,	13,520 00
765 cattle,	21,301 00
92 sheep,	330 00
Stock in trade,	24,385 00
Stock in banks,	5,100 00
Carriages,	2,660 00
Money on hand or at interest,	26,463 00
Mills and machinery,	14,500 00
Stock in public funds,	1,555 00
Hogs,	55 00
	$476,499 00

AMOUNT OF MONEY RAISED BY TAX.

State tax,	$1180 00
County tax,	776 17
Schools,	2000 00
Town charges,	200 00
Turning brook and filling bridges,	200 00
Work in cemetery,	200 00
Town tomb,	200 00
School Dist. No. 1 tax,	52 38
" " 3 tax,	75 00
" " 5 tax,	125 00
" " 8 tax,	225 00

School District No. 9, tax,	$ 25 00
Surplusage on above,	27 03
Tax on dogs,	73 00
Non-resident highway tax,	260 81
Committed to O. L. Brock for collection,	5619 39

We have drawn 68 orders on the town treasurer, amounting to $5,393 59, making payments as follows :—

School-house tax in District No 1,	52 38
" " " 3,	75 00
" " " 5,	125 00
" " " 8,	225 00
" " " 9,	25 00
	502 38

EXPENDED FOR SCHOOLS.

District No. 1,	225 00
" 2,	143 78
" 3,	168 00
" 4,	156 00
" 5,	515 00
" 6,	10 70
" 7,	137 00
" 8,	257 50
" 9,	157 00
" 10,	126 00
" 11,	120 00
" 12,	139 00
	2154 98
Included in the above, raised by tax,	2000 00
Literary fund,	93 98
Tax on dogs,	61 00
	2154 98

MISCELLANEOUS.

Timothy Dailey, sheep killed by dogs	$4 00
Printing town reports, 1879,	21 00
Printing catalogue for town library,	1 00
Express on reports,	30
School notices, certificates &c.,	6 50
Express and postage,	64
Teams on town business,	27 20
W. H. Spalter, books and stationery,	8 02
Batchelder and Faulkner retaining fee,	6 00
A. J. Blake for affidavit, letter and postage,	1 81
A. J. Blake, writing deed for hearse-house lot,	75
A. S. Wilson, wood for town hall,	8 55
J. H. Ramsdell, sawing wood,	1 50
Dexter Collins, injury to ox by breaking through bridge,	25 00
Committee for improving cemetery,	162 12
G. N. Olmstead, straps for sexton's use,	3 75
Bemis & Earle, new hearse,	240.00
C. B. Perry, 3 affidavits,	1 25
J. M. Parker & Co., oil, wicks, chimneys, glass, etc.,	8 19
C. A. Smitherman, setting glass,	75
Percy A. Carter, ringing bell,	12 00
Abatements, 1880,	55 89
E. & C. Carter, work on hearse,	2 50
E. & C. Carter, repairing stove,	75
E. A. Nutting, moving wood into the town hall,	75
Batchelder & Faulkner, term fees and settlement in Nason case,	45 00
C. Byam, 7 1-2 days labor in cemetery clearing off stones,	11 25
Freight on hearse runners,	1 00
A. R. Gleason, taking care of library room,	10 00
Etta E. Gleason, repairing books,	5 00
J. J. Allen, recording deed,	55
Certificates of births and deaths,	12 50
M. W. Flagg, taking care of and repairs on town clock,	15 75
H. J. Pratt & Co., oil, can and stove polish,	2 86
Car fare,	8 60

Envelopes, ink and pens,	30
Ticket to Claremont for sick Frenchman,	1 95
Bounty on hawks,	1 80
Expenses of arresting Champany and Lunderville,	36 99
Time and expenses at Winchester, Nason case,	5 00
	758 77

HIGHWAYS.

I. Harvey Burbank, breaking roads,	$20 82
Otis Hayden, " "	31 79
David Putney, " "	55 80
Amos McGee, " "	3 27
James C. Baldwin, " "	3 90
Dustin A. Gee, " "	26 25
James Harkness, " "	35 42
Albert Hayden, " "	26 83
Frederick E. Pierce, " "	17 21
Edwin L. Hodge, " "	11 66
Wm. Leborveau, " "	9 55
Joel Perham, " "	11 27
Nahum Green, " "	7 33
J. P. Mathews, " "	16 16
O. W. Smith, " "	17 67
G. W. Wilson, work in 1879,	14 66
Wm. Williams, breaking roads,	10 33
Methodist society, for gravel,	4 40
Wm. Barnes, breaking roads,	22 71
George H. Fairbank, " "	18 73
George O. Dunton, " "	6 30
O. K. Wheelock, " "	4 94
James Holman, " "	9 82
	386 82

BRIDGES.

Otis Hayden, work on Camp bridge,	7 00
Albert Hayden, work on Handy bridge,	2 50
Elisha Chaplin, plank and stringers,	13 19

H. N. Fairbank, work on bridges,	$12 75
H. N. Fairbank, timber for bridges,	6 85
G. W. Wilson, plank in 1879,	49
O. W. Smith, 582 ft. plank,	5 82
O. W. Smith, 7 stringers,	1 75
O. W. Smith, hauling plank and work on bridges,	2 50
E. L. Stone, 375 ft. plank,	3 75
C. Byam, work on Taft bridge and bridge near S. S. Stone's mill,	8 50
Jonas Damon, 1490 ft. plank,	14 90
Dexter Collins, 1600 ft. plank delivered at bridge,	20 80
Otis Hayden, work on bridges and sluices taking out wooden bridges and replacing with stone bridges,	32 00
	$132 80

TURNING BROOK AND FILLING BRIDGES ON TEMPLETON ROAD.

Alfred Whitney, land damages,	$35 00
Alfred Whitney, labor filling bridge,	12 00
H. N. Fairbank, 21 days labor,	31 50
C. F. Bosworth, 19 1-4 " "	25 02
C. Byam, labor of self and others,	92 20
R. L. Angier, powder and fuse,	4 28
	$200 00

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

35 enginemen, $3 00	105 00
S. S. Wilkinson, repairing hose,	5 00
Express on hose,	95
Steward's bill,	18 30
Printing posters and regulations,	3 50
Express and postage,	32
	133 07

HEARSE HOUSE.

C. Byam, 14 days work on and around hearse house,	$21 00
Philip Boyce, 8 1-2 days labor on hearse house,	17 00
C. A. Smytherman, painting,	6 00
C. A. Smytherman, 12 lbs. zinc,	1 32
Raymond & Rice, bill for lumber,	33 23
Philip Boice, hauling lumber,	1 00
E. L. Syone, bill for lumber,	14 63
Jonathan Page, bill for lumber,	11 50
E. C. Baker, one day with team,	3 00
E. C. Baker, horse to Winchendon and Scott mill,	2 00
Lock and key,	1 13
Daniel Whitcomb, carting gravel,	75
J. M. Parker & Co., nails, paint, oil, rollers, etc.,	16 66
E. & C. Carter, irons for lock,	25
	129 47

COUNTY PAUPERS.

John Parker,	27 75
David C. Stone,	49 43
Isaac Shampan,	8 73
Tramps,	3 63
	89 56

TOWN PAUPERS.

Henry McManus,	28 25
Ivers Emerson,	235 64
Paul Handy,	24 50
Daniel White,	51 84
Michael Champany,	43 95
	384 18

TOWN OFFICERS.

Auditors, 1879,	6 00
Selectmen,	224 00
Moderator,	4 00

Supervisors,	$36 00
Sexton,	22 28
Superintending school committee,	75 00
Librarian,	20 00
Firewards,	15 00
Treasurer,	15 00
Collector of taxes,	55 00
Town clerk,	49 28
	521 56

RECAPITULATION.

School tax Dist. No. 1,	52 38
" " 3,	75 00
" " 5,	125 00
" " 8,	225 00
" " 9,	25 00
Schools,	2154 98
Roads,	386 82
Bridges,	132 80
Turning brook on Templeton road.	200 00
Fire department,	133 07
Hearse house,	129 47
County paupers,	89 56
Town paupers,	384 18
Town officers,	521 58
Miscellaneous,	758 77
	5393 59

SETTLEMENT WITH J. FORRISTALL, COLLECTOR FOR 1878.

Due the town March 1st, 1880,		71 83
Of this amount he has paid the town treasurer,	$22 17	
Abated,	44 26	66 43
Due the town March 1st 1881,		5 40

SETTLEMENT WITH J. FORRISTALL, COLLECTOR FOR 1879.

Due the town March 1st, 1880,		$555 93
Of this amount he has paid town treasurer,	$537 14	
Abated,	14 13	551 27
Due the town March 1st, 1881,		4 66

SETTLEMENT WITH O. L. BROCK, COLLECTOR FOR 1880.

Assessed and committed for collection,		5619 39
Abated,	19 02	
Non-resident highway tax worked,	36 87	
Paid town treasurer,	5028 97	5084 86
Due the town March 1st, 1881,		534 53

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Bond due July 1st, 1882,	300 00

ASSETS.

Money in Town treasury,	99 17
County pauper account,	44 40
Due from State, bounty on hawks and foxes,	7 80
Due from collector for 1878,	5 40
" " 1879,	4 66
" " 1880,	584 53
	745 96
Amount of assets above liabilities,	445 96

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES BYAM,
REUBEN L. ANGIER,
CHARLES D. BIGELOW,
Selectmen of Fitzwilliam.

I, the subscriber, having examined the foregoing report of the Selectmen, certify that I find it properly vouched and correctly cast.

STEPHEN BATCHELLER,
Auditor.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in treasury March 1, 1880,	$241 24
Lewis Taft, lot in cemetery,	4 00
Dwight Raymond,	1 00
Charles Byam, pauper account,	51 63
Sale of hearse runners,	10 00
Hay scales,	11 00
Sale of old lumber,	3 00
Sale of new lumber,	2 00
Orthodox society,	1 00
Railroad tax dividend,	117 54
Literary fund "	102 86
Savings Bank tax "	1254 56
John Forristall, coll., 1878,	22 17
John Forristall, " " interest,	5 62
John Forristall, " 1879,	537 14
John Forristall, " " interest,	17 31
O. L. Brock, " 1880,	5084 86
	7466 93

DISBURSEMENTS.

Matured coupons,	18 00
County tax,	776 17
State tax,	1180 00
68 orders of selectmen,	5393 59
Cash on hand,	99 17
	7466 93

The amount the collector was to pay to the treasurer is	$5619 39
The amount he has paid is	5084 86
Due from collector,	534 53

JOHN M. PARKER, Treasurer.

I, the subscriber, having examined the foregoing report of the Treasurer, certify that I find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

STEPHEN BATCHELLER, Auditor.

REPORT OF THE FIREWARDS,

For the Year Ending Feb. 28, 1881.

There has been one fire during the year, a shed belonging to L. J. Pease. No alarm was given.

The department has at all times been under good discipline and ready for business. May they in the future as in the year just closed be "Ever ready but never wanted."

LIST OF PROPERTY

In the possession of the Fire department, belonging to the town.

4 Fireward badges; 1 Hunneman engine; 1 hose carriage; 300 feet cotton, rubber-lined hose, never used but 2 or 3 times; 300 feet cotton, rubber-lined hose, in good order; 100 feet leather hose, old and nearly worthless; 4 pieces suction hose, old but in good condition; 12 spanners; 12 spanner belts; 3 axes; 3 lanterns; 1 monkey-wrench; 1 oiler; 1 saddle for suction hose; 1 sled, worthless; 2 neck-yokes; 1 pair whiffletrees; 1 hoisting-jack; 1 sprinkler; 1 sponge; 4 hanging lamps; 6 fire-buckets; 1 fire-hook; 1 bell and frame from old engine; 2 stoves and pipe; 1-2 cord of wood; 2 settees.

EXPENSE OF MAINTAINING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

For the Year.

5 Firewards,	15 00
35 Engine men,	105 00
Steward's bill, including labor, alcohol, wicks, chimneys and oil,	18 30
Stationery for firewards,	2 50
Repairing hose and express on same,	5 35
Express and postage,	32
	146 47

Respectfully submitted,

D. H. REED, Chief.

J. H. BIGELOW, Clerk.

REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

The Committee chosen at the last March meeting, to improve the Cemetery, report as follows :—

Amount raised and appropriated,	$200 00
Amount expended :—	
637 feet boards for grave marks,	9 80
1 bushel grass seed,	3 00
Wright Whitcomb, 39 1-4 days work,	58 87
" " horse, 6 days work,	4 50
E. C. Baker, " 2 "	1 50
William Williams, 53 1-3 days work,	84 45
	162 12
Balance of appropriation in town treasury,	37 88

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL WHITCOMB,
WILLIAM WILLIAMS,
DANIEL H. REED,
} Committee.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISORS

— OF —

THE FITZWILLIAM TOWN LIBRARY,

MARCH 1ST, 1881.

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand March 1, 1880,	$21 26
Membership fees,	4 00
Library Levee, Aug. 24, 1880,	37 06
Use of books by the day,	1 67
Fines for detention of books,	2 53
Donation,	1 00
Young Folks' Entertainment,	13 26
	80 78

DISBURSEMENTS.

Expended for new books,	47 18
W. H. Spalter, repairs on books,	8 15
Paid for labels,	90
Stationery and stamps,	57
Cash on hand, March 1, 1881,	23 98
	80 78

Number of books in the town library, March 1, 1881,	1431
Also, the "Unitarian Library," (so called) which numbers volumes.	412
Total,	1843

New books purchased during the year,	67
Received from the U. S. and State governments and other sources,	18
Books lost since the establishment of the library,	2
Number of books issued during the past year,	3000

By an examination of the last Special Report of the United States Commissioner of Education at Washington, upon the "Public Libraries in the United States of America, their History, Condition and Management," it will be seen that within a few years the number of public libraries in the United States has rapidly increased. Until within a few years each library worked after its own method, which were often seen to be imperfectly adapted to the ends in view. A comparison of methods and an interchange of ideas between librarians was needful for their efficient work.

During the Centennial year, (1876) many of the librarians and others connected and interested with library work, met in conference at Philadelphia, at which time the American Library Association was formed and many valuable papers relating to library service were read and discussed. These were published in the Library Journal, bound volumes of which we hope to be able in the near future to place in our own valuable library.

Last year the Keene Public Library became a member of the Association, and we trust that ours may ere long become a member of the same. By availing ourselves of these aids to library management, we hope to be able to take steps to further increase the efficiency of our library. Two things have been prominently lacking in our library,—a proper classification of the books, and a catalogue that would be a more complete guide than the one now in use.

The late librarian of the Boston Public Library, (now of Harvard,) says :—

"If the librarian and his co-adjutors are to work for a common end effectually, the collection gathered about them must be catalogued. This means no rough work of the auctioneer's kind, but scholarly and faithful inquiry, embodied in a fixed and comprehensive method. Every book must be questioned persistently as to its author, its kind, its scope, its relation to all knowledge. Answers to all these questions must be made record of, once for all. Let not the cost frighten; a library without such an index is no library, but a mob of books."

The want of sufficient funds has been the cause of this great deficiency in our library. Would it not be wise and judicious for the town at some future meeting to make an appropriation sufficient to prepare and publish a catalogue of the library, since it is admitted by all that a library is one of the greatest and most efficient means for the education of the masses?

Many persons using the Boston Public Library agree that its peculiar advantage lies less in the great number of its books than in the fact that exhaustive catalogues guide the student to just the book he wants; he is not compelled to swell statistics of circulation of books in the library, by taking out ten books that were not wanted in order to find the volume of which he stands in need.

SELECTION OF BOOKS.

In the difficult task of selecting books the committee have kept in mind the varied tastes of all classes of readers, and although some mistakes may have been made, and they may sometimes err in judgment, yet they have given much time and earnest thought to this work, endeavoring as a rule, to add to the really valuable collection on our shelves, books that shall have a permanent value,as they did last year in the selection and

purchase of ten volumes of Chamber's Encylopædia, and this year, Bayard Taylor's Travels, Stanley's Expedition into Africa, The Fool's Errand, Mark Twain's last work, (Tramp Abroad,) English Poets, and many other valuable works. We very gratefully acknowledge the receipt from Mrs. Peter Harvey of Boston of eight volumes of Littell's Living Age,and several other books, also donations of books and magazines from Mrs. K. Otis Kimball, Mrs. Josiah E. Carter and others.

Our summer boarders are much interested in, and nearly all are patrons of the library. Let us trust that our community will become wiser and better, on account of our small sacrifices and appropriations, made for our library, which is truly one of the greatest sources of the education of the people and the pride of our town.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

MRS. ETTA E. GLEASON, Librarian.

AMOS J. BLAKE, } Supervisors of
AARON R. GLEASON, } Town Library.

Fitzwilliam, N. H., March 1, 1881.